

Patent Application No. 09/682,417

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated June 2, 2003. In the Office Action, claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 USC §103. Claims 2, 3, 7 and 8 were objected to, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended, claims 2 and 3 are canceled, and claims 9-12 are added. Currently pending claims 1 and 4-14 are believed allowable, with claims 1, 7, and 9 being independent claims.

Claim 1 is amended to include all the limitations of claim 2. The examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claim 2, presently in claim 1, is allowable. Thus, claim 1 is believed allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 4-6 and 8 are dependent on and further limit claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed allowable, claims 4-6 and 8 are also believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 7 is amended to independent form. The examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claim 7 is allowable. Thus, claim 7 is believed allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 9 is added to the present application and includes the limitations of claims 1 and 3. The examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claim 3, presently in claim 9, is allowable. Thus, claim 9 is believed allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 10-14 are dependent on and further limit claim 9. Since claim 9 is believed allowable, claims 10-14 are also believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

CONCLUSION

In view of the forgoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this case is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to contact the attorney below.


No fee is believed due with this Amendment, however, should a fee be required please charge Deposit Account 50-0510. Should any extensions of

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time be required, please consider this a petition thereof and charge Deposit Account 50-0510 the required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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